(i) Enactment of a legislation i.e. Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 for mandatory usage of jute packaging material for certain sectors of the economy.

(ii) Setting up of Jute Modernisation Fund of Rs. 150 crores with effect from 1st November, 1986 for modernisation of jute mills.

(iii) Setting up of a Special Development Fund of Rs. 100 crores for restructuring/re-opening/rehabilitation of jute industry as well as development of jute agriculture.

(iv) Waiver of Customs duty on import of certain specified items of jute machinery and accessories with a view to encouraging modernisation programme of jute mills.

(v) Providing cash compensatory support for export of jute goods.

(vi) Purchase of jute goods by Government (DGS&D) from jute industry at cost plus price according to Palekar formula.

(vii) Creation of a buffer stock scheme of raw jute so as to bring stability in raw jute prices.

Killing of an Assistant Commissioner of Income-Tax in Tinsukia, Assam

3469. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax was shot dead at Tinsukia in Assam on the 1st August, 1988; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to provide protection to such officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of answer to Part (a) of the Question, does not arise.

Export of Cotton

3470. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have estimated a bumper crop of cotton during the current year; if so, what is the estimated quantity thereof;

(b) whether Government are examining the possibility of export of cotton; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) While a good crop of cotton is expected during 1988-89 in view of the abundant rains this year, a provisional estimate is possible only by October/November, 1988.

(b) and (c) The quantum of export of cotton will depend upon factors such as crop size, domestic requirements and prices. No details in this regard can be indicated at this time.

Identification of Rivers with the Object of Removal of Pollution

3471. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some rivers have been identified during the last three months for the purpose of removal of pollution; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Though no such identification has been undertaken in the last three months, the Central Pollution Control Board has completed detailed river basin studies for the rivers Ganga, Yammuna, Damodar, Subarnarekha, Brahmani-Baitarni, Krishna and Sabarmati. Studies are in progress for the river Cau-

very, Godavari, Mahanadi and Mahi. These studies help in formulating action plans for restoring water quality wherever required.

Visit of a Delegation of Confederation of Engineering, Industry to Australia

3472. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report of a delegation of Confederation of Engineering Industry (CEI) which visited Australia in July, 1988;

(b) whether the delegation has identified a number of areas for boosting exports;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) what is the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The areas identified by the delegation for boosting exports are subcontracting by India to Australian companies, cooperation in funded projects, highway construction and exports of Jeeps and parts, 2 and 3 wheelers, Earthmoving equipment, Machine Tools, Handtools, Industrial Machinery, Sugar Machinery, Industrial fasteners, Trucks and LCVs, Diesel engines, Auto Parts, Pumps, compressors and valves and Kitchen ware, Brass ware and EPNS ware. Of these, projects involving Road Transport System and exoprts of commercial vehicles, two and three wheelers, agricultural tractors, machine tools, Auto spares and ancillaries, sugar machinery, earthmoving equipment and cranes, process pumps, diesel engines, air compressors, handtools and various specific types of industrial machinery have been identified by the Government as thrust industries.

Vacation of stay against Jain-Banerjee Committee

3473. SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the vacation of stay granted by the Delhi High Court against the Jain-Banerjee Committee;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the counsels for the Delhi Administration and the Union of India are opposing the application of the Citizens Justice Committe for the vacation of the stay; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Loan Melas

3474. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of loan melas organised in the country during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) what is the number of loan applications received in each of the loan melas;